

SENSATIONAL LETTERS WERE READ

Counsel for Defendant Charles R. Heike Fought Bitterly to Have the Documents Barred

CHEATING AT SUGAR TRICK SCALES

The Letters were Unexpectedly Introduced by the Government and were Read from Heike's Private Letter Book—Packages of "Technical Statements" Destroyed by Clerks at Heike's Direction.

New York, May 26.—Charles R. Heike, in the United States circuit court today, heard from J. Stinson, for the government, read letters in which Heike spoke of the "liberal weights" he received from the American Sugar Refining company, the so-called sugar trick, Heike is charged with conspiracy to defraud the government of customs dues on imports of raw sugar. Five subordinates are being tried with him. He is prosecuted as an executive, was consultant of the refinery and was in charge of the refinery at the time of the trial.

Counsel for Heike fought bitterly to bar the letters, but Judge Martin overruled the objections and they became part of the record. The first was dated Dec. 24, 1904, and addressed to Frank G. Turner, superintendent of the South Boston refinery. It read in part:

"I spoke to Mr. Thomas (Washington B. Thomas, president of the American Sugar Refining company) the other day in reference to a change we wish to make in your melting account in order to have it conform with the melting account of the other refineries. These refineries are not to be confused. First, the desire of the superintendents to make as good a showing of their working as possible; second, by the liberal weights and measures which we receive from the customs house, and which, of course, we do not undertake to correct."

The foregoing was introduced unexpectedly by the government and was read from Heike's private letter book, which was identified in court by William Foster, auditor in the company's Wall Street office.

This was quickly followed by another letter written by Heike to John Ernest W. Gerbracht, formerly superintendent of the Williamsburg

(Brooklyn) refinery. Gerbracht is one of the defendants. The communication mildly chided Gerbracht for not having shown certain weight books as requested by a clerk of the insurance inspectors.

"As there were no duties on those sugars," wrote Heike, "there could be no comparison with the customs house weights."

Other letters, considered less significant by the prosecution, were read, among them communications to the heads of the refineries at New Orleans, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago and Jersey City. One letter to Superintendent Witherspoon of the New Orleans refinery contained this statement:

"He (Mr. Havemeyer, now dead) is very much interested in the final return of each refinery."

"Technical Statements" Destroyed. During the afternoon, William A. Bryan, a clerk in Heike's office, testified that in March, 1909, he destroyed a package marked "technical statements, 1908," at Heike's direction. This was four days after the termination of the government suit for the recovery of some \$2,000,000 in duties from the company.

Arthur H. Wallin, a clerk in the auditing department, also testified that he destroyed some technical statements at Heike's request.

"When was this?" asked Mr. Denison for the government.

"At the close of the first Spitzer trial," "That was in 1907?" "Yes."

"How was the package marked?" "Technical statements, raw sugar, 1908," answered the witness.

"The package was not its case today as had been expected. Adjournment was taken until tomorrow."

Following the drill of the Third company at the army on Thursday evening, there was a meeting of four men named to confer with the Fifth company's committee regarding the campfire next month. Those named were Sergeant Orman, Sergeant P. S. Smith, Corporal Mason and Musician Pendleton.

Orders were read directing the members to be at the army Sunday evening, May 29, at 10 o'clock, for a service at Christ Episcopal church in a body for a memorial service by Rev. Nelson Poe Carey. The orders for the memorial service were read at the army at 1:30 o'clock.

BANKERS' CONVENTION. State Association to Meet at Morris Cove June 8 and 9.

Announcement was made Thursday that the annual meeting of the Connecticut State Bankers' association will be held at Morris Cove, June 8 and 9, and delegates will be present from all sections of the state. The annual election of officers and directors will be held at the convention of the American Bankers' association, to be held at Los Angeles in October, will take place at this time.

About twenty banking men in this state have already booked for the trip to Los Angeles. In the convention, C. C. Barlow, cashier of the Yale National bank of New Haven and president of the State association, will be one of the speakers.

The Connecticut party will join the delegations from other states and will make the trip to the Pacific coast in a special train.

FUNERALS. Charles E. Hewitt. The funeral of Charles E. Hewitt, held at his home in North Stonington Wednesday afternoon, called together a good number of neighbors and friends. The services were conducted by Mr. Hewitt's pastor, Rev. F. H. Hollister, assisted by Rev. Lucian Drury, who for the first time in his half year of his residence in North Stonington had his home at the Hewitts. The funeral was a very touching affair, and the services were well attended.

The address was made by Mr. Hewitt, and was a fitting tribute to the character and worth of Mr. Hewitt. The body rested in a handsome black casket covered with flowers and was placed in the cemetery near Hewitt's station, the Rev. Mr. Hollister officiating.

George L. Wilcox, was a prosperous farmer of Lebanon. He died about two years ago of scarlet fever and since then Mrs. Wilcox has lived with her grandmother, Mrs. Tucker. There were only the two children in the family, and the widow has been suffering from hip disease all her life.

SUPERIOR COURT. Case Over Land Near New London Heard and Decision Reserved. A New London case was on in the superior court here today, involving the suit of Lord & Johnson (Rendell Lord and Wallace R. Johnson), vs. John C. Beckwith, over a piece of land.

It is claimed that some time ago Willis S. Holmes purchased a lot 55x109, or rather agreed to purchase it from Mr. Beckwith. The price was \$200, which Holmes was to pay in two months.

Cabled Paragraphs

Berne, Switzerland, May 26.—An earthquake shock was recorded in Switzerland this morning. The movement was most pronounced in the vicinity of this city, where household furniture in some instances was overturned.

Paris, May 24.—The two soldiers, Graby and Michel, charged with the murder of Mme. Godin, widow of Jules Edouard Godin, a former governor of the Bank of France, were today convicted by court martial. Graby being sentenced to death and Michel to 20 years' imprisonment.

Punta Arenas, Chile, May 26.—The British bark Swanilda has been wrecked on South Island, in the south-east extremity of Tierra del Fuego, and Captain Pyne, his wife and thirteen others have been drowned. The Swanilda sailed from Cardiff March 15 for the west coast of South America. No details of the disaster have been received here.

DECIDES TO CARRY OUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. Second Church Retains Same Committee for the Celebration With Power to Appoint Sub-Committees.

Thursday evening at the midweek meeting at the Second Congregational church the recommendations presented by the committee last week were brought up and adopted, so that the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the church will be celebrated Sunday morning and evening, Sept. 25, and the evening following.

It was decided to retain the same committee, J. D. Haviland, Mrs. J. M. Huntington, Mrs. Lucy Foster, Wallace S. Allen and Henry D. Johnson, to have charge of the celebration and carry out the plans, giving them power to appoint sub-committees as they deem necessary.

VETERAN MASONS TO MEET IN NORWICH. Session to Be Held Here on June 23 at Masonic Temple.

There was a meeting of the directors of the Masonic Temple corporation on Thursday evening, at which, among other things, there was considered the proposed plan for the new building, which was invited to hold its 1910 meeting in this city at the invitation of the directors.

The association members will gather here June 23 at Masonic temple and come details regarding that were discussed.

THIRD COMPANY MEETING. Committee Named to Arrange for Campfire and Orders for Sunday Evening and Monday Read.

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The defendant claimed that the cost of the lot was \$500, and started a foundation for a house. Then L. J. Coburn, the industrial plant promoter, came along and offered to purchase the lot for \$200,000. The entire tract of about 35 acres from Mr. Beckwith.

Lord & Johnson, to whom Mr. Holmes assigned his claim, attempted to secure a warranty deed, but were unable. The suit followed. Holmes claims he should be compensated for the barn and foundation if he is a victor.

The case was finished and the judge took the papers. The other case had been excused for the day court was adjourned until this morning for short calendar business.

Early Note on The Railroad Bill

A PREDICTION THAT THE VOTE WILL COME TODAY.

SENATE RUSHING WORK

More Accomplished in Closing Hours Yesterday Than in Any One Previous Week—Results of the Balloting.

Washington, May 26.—Through the deferral in the senate today of a number of amendments offered by "insurgent" republicans and democrats, the way was paved for an early vote on the administration railroad bill. It is expected this will come tomorrow, and that the senate then will adjourn over until Monday when the statehood bill probably will be made the order of business.

"Regulars" Maintain Firm Hold. The "regular" republicans maintained a firm hold upon the situation during the several votes on important features of the bill. The "insurgents" and democrats united their votes on several occasions. More was accomplished during the closing hours of the session today than in any one week during the three months the bill has been the pending business.

The Voting. Not until three o'clock was anything done beyond closing out the session of the measure, but when at that time Senator La Follette concluded his two quiet, steady efforts to the bill, the voting proceeded rapidly, with the following results:

The Cummins amendment requiring the approval of the interstate commerce commission of all increases in railroad rates before they become effective, was voted down, 29 to 43.

The Martin amendment, requiring the commission to reach a final decision on increases within six months, was defeated, 38 to 40.

An amendment of Mr. Clarke of Arkansas, to defer increased rates until passed upon by the commission, but which would have allowed the railroad companies to increase rates pending a final decision, was rejected 35 to 40.

MOTHER DROWS DAUGHTER AND HERSELF AT LEBANON. Also Tried to End Son's Life but He Got Away—Mrs. Minnie Wilcox Took Them From House to Pond at Midnight.

Some time after midnight, Wednesday, Mrs. Minnie Wilcox of Lebanon, a widow, 38 years old, drowned her 12-year-old daughter, Ernestine, and herself in the Lebanon river. The girl was found floating in the river, and the mother was found in the river, also. The girl was found floating in the river, and the mother was found in the river, also.

PRISONER ESCAPED AFTER BEING BOUND OVER. Ernest Whitford, Aged 20, Leaped Out of Pen and Hiked Out of Court Room Hotly Pursued, but Got Away.

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Patton Comes Out Second Best

WHEAT KING WORSTED IN CONTEST WITH BEARS.

LOSS SAID TO BE \$1,200,000

Albany Millionaire Carried His Deal Through to Successful Conclusion—Forced Shorts to Settle at His Price.

Chicago, May 26.—The private settlement of Theodore H. Waterman's deal in wheat today has caused a remarkable decline in prices. The unloading of 8,000,000 bushels of September wheat by James A. and George H. Patton and the announcement of their withdrawal from the brokerage firm of which they have been members for a generation, and also their retirement, at least temporarily, from business, came coincidentally.

The net decline in prices ranged from 4 1/2 cents in September to more than five cents in May wheat. Altogether the day in wheat was one destined to take rank with other momentous periods of the history of the Chicago board of trade.

Patton's Losses Reported Heavy. James A. Patton left his office today, smiling, in his hand a check for \$1,200,000. He had leisure to read the headlines estimating his losses at anywhere between \$500,000 to \$1,200,000 for the day.

Asked by a reporter if he had anything to say about the market, the millionaire laughed and said: "Just say I don't know anything about the market."

In this jovial manner Mr. Patton admitted that he had come out second best in a contest with the bears. "Not many men could take it like this," he remarked, an admiring junior partner of the firm, as his most picturesque member left the office for his automobile.

Millionaire Waterman Carried His Deal. Traders are agreed that Theodore H. Waterman, the Albany millionaire, the leading long in May, has carried his deal through to a successful conclusion. He has been able to get out of his position, generally believed to have been around 1.14. Any effort to gauge his profits, however, is futile.

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Condensed Telegrams

The Centennial Exposition of Argentina was opened at Buenos Ayres. The melting of the snow on the mountains of Norway caused serious floods.

M. B. Bates, Who Escaped from prison in Missouri nine years ago, has been recaptured.

Amendments to the Administration land withdrawal bill were authorized by the senate committee on public lands.

A House Bill Granting Tracts of land to a number of mountain towns in Colorado for park purposes passed the senate.

The National Packing Company, in reply to the recent legal attacks on the corporation, declares that the indictments are invalid.

Additional Areas in Wyoming and Utah were designated by the interior department for disposition under the enlarged homestead act.

The Secretary of the Interior has granted to New Mexico 31,588 acres of land in the Las Cruces land district as school indemnity lands.

Robert A. Milliken, associate professor of physics at the University of Chicago, claims to have isolated and measured an "atom of electricity."

A New Federal District Judge for the eastern district of New York is provided by a bill favorably reported by the senate committee on judiciary.

A Bill Providing That a Pauper may bring an action for the recovery of a debt or defend one in any federal court without cost was favorably reported to the house.

About 79,000 Acres of Land in Idaho which has been reserved in connection with irrigation projects and is now stored to the public domain by the secretary of the Interior.

An Area of About 606,086 Acres, located in central Arizona, which was withdrawn temporarily in 1901 for forest reservation, has been restored to the public domain by the secretary of the Interior.

THE DISAPPEARING COMET. Head is Again Normal—Will Be on Exhibition Until June 10.

Watertown, Conn., May 26.—After many days of cloudy weather, the residents of Watertown were gratified to-night by an excellent view of the disappearing comet, which was seen in the clear western sky, being distinctly visible shortly before 9 o'clock.

It attracted attention in the parks and on the streets, and many people gathered to see it as it came forth from behind the clouds. The head was as large as the first magnitude star, but the tail was not nearly so resplendent as when in the eastern sky.

Tail 30 Degrees Long. Amherst, Mass., May 26.—Observations of Halley's comet made tonight by Prof. David Todd at the Amherst college observatory indicated that the comet's head is again normal. To trace the comet's path, the professor from the head reported by Professor Wendell of Harvard or the division of the Harvard observatory, which was announced by an Arizona observer. The tail tonight was thirty degrees long.

Thousands of Comet Gazers. Providence, May 26.—Halley's comet will be visible on Wednesday night until June 10, according to an announcement made tonight by Frank E. Seagrave, the astronomer, who is said to have been the first to predict the comet's ephemeris, or time of appearance in the eastern sky. Mr. Seagrave found the wanderer more brilliant than he was expected to be.

Brown students gathered on College Hill tonight and cheered Halley and his comet. The parks throughout the city were thronged by thousands of comet gazers.

Demented Tailor Plays the Part of a Human Ostrich. New York, May 26.—Patrick Celeste, a tailor with obsessions, played the part of a human ostrich tonight and thrust his head repeatedly in a pile of sand in an East Side street. Children, gaping and jeering, encouraged his antics. To a policeman's inquiry the man replied that he was looking for his enemies. He was taken to Bellevue hospital for examination.